

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Claims 1-18 were pending in the application. By way of this amendment, claim 11 has been cancelled.

Please note that the amendment to claim 1 places the subject matter of former claim 11 into claim 1. The amendment to claim 12 merely places claim 12 into independent form. Thus, all of the amendments set forth above should be entered.

Claims 1 to 18 stand rejected as anticipated by Marin. It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of amended independent claim 1 (formerly the subject matter of dependent claim 11) is clearly not disclosed or suggested by Marin, for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1 recites that “the system further comprises a core pin with a channel to provide said fluid communication.” The said fluid communication is the fluid communication between the pressure sensor and the opening at the distal end, as claimed.

The office action states that Marin’s pressure manometer 29 corresponds to the claimed pressure sensor and that Marin’s guide wire lumen 44 corresponds to the claimed channel. However, unlike the invention of claim 1, Marin’s guide wire lumen 44 does not provide fluid communication to its pressure sensor 29. As shown in, for example, Figure 3 of Marin, lumen 44 is isolated from the remainder of sheath 20.

Similar reasoning applies to claims 16 and 18. It is thus respectfully submitted that independent claim 1 and independent claims 16 and 18, and all claims dependent thereon, are clearly patentable over Marin.

Independent claim 12 recites that the introducer portion further comprises a side hole near the distal end of the introducer portion. In one preferred embodiment of the present invention, such an arrangement is illustrated in Figure 9 in the form of side hole 28.

The Marin device does not have such a side hole. Figure 1B of Marin discloses no side hole.

Similar reasoning applies to claim 17 ("the channel having an entrance proximal from the distal end of the introducer portion via an opening in the introducer portion").

It is thus respectfully submitted that independent claims 12 and 17 are clearly patentable over Marin.

Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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